GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4290
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2000
PRASAR BHARATI BOARD
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prasar Bharti Board is formally functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some members of the Prasar Bharti Board have recently retired;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the period for which they were appointed;

(e) whether the said members have retired before the expiry of their term; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The Board is formally functioning with three part-time Membersnamely, Shri B.G.Verghese, Prof. U.R.Rao and Dr. Abid Hussain; one ExecutiveMember, namely, Shri R.R. Shah and one representative of the Union Ministry ofInformation and Broadcasting, namely, Ms. Aruna Makhan, Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(c) to (f) : Sub-section 3 of Section 6 of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 provides that term of office of part-time Members shall be six years but one-third of such Members shall retire on the expiration of every second year. Sub- section 5 of Section 6 empowers the President to make such provisions as he thinks fitfor curtailing the term of office of some of the part-time Members in order that one- third of them shall retire every second year. In order to meet the legal requirement of these provisions, term of office of two part-time members, namely, Prof. U.R.Rao andDr. Abid Hussain has been curtailed in 1999 from 6 years to 4 years and the term of office of another two part-time Members namely Prof. Romila Thapar and ShriRajendra Yadav has been curtailed from 6 years to 2 years.